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Media Advisory

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Africa Partnership Station Set to Launch

Vice Admiral James Winnefeld, Commander, U.S. 6th Fleet, and Captain John Nowell, Commodore for Africa Partnership Station (APS), will hold a media availability to announce the launch of Africa Partnership Station on Monday, 29 October at 1 p.m., aboard USS Fort McHenry (LSD 43), during a visit to Naval Station Rota, Spain.

Africa Partnership Station is a concerted interagency and multinational effort to promote maritime safety and security in Africa. With a joint staff representing navies of more than a dozen African, European and North American countries, APS will visit ports in Senegal, Liberia, Ghana, Cameroon, Gabon, Sao Tome & Principe, and other African countries to conduct training, complete humanitarian projects and build partnerships among participating nations.

The APS agenda is not limited to Navy-related training alone. From leadership to seamanship, and from personnel to port security, APS events will be tailored to the unique needs of each African nation that have been developed from an analysis and prioritization of needs in consultation with African partners.

Utilizing the USS Fort McHenry and USS Swift (HSV-2), APS staff will make repeated visits to each nation, taking aboard ship riders for at sea training. Key U.S. agencies, including the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and several non-governmental organizations will also use the APS platform to further specific scientific and humanitarian projects.

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*Lunch is provided, and a brief tour precedes the availability. Organizations interested in covering this availability must call LT Mike Morley at +34-659-460-531 **by 1200, 25 Oct** for access to Naval Station Rota. Media must be at the Base Naval de Rota main gate **by 1130 Monday** for transport to the ship.*